

REMARKS

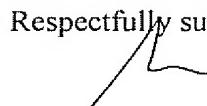
Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-40 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New Claims 41-54 are presented for consideration to clarify the nature of the subject matter claimed and to expedite allowance of this application. The new claims are based on the definition of the term "blood product" in the specification on page 10, lines 14-15 as referring to at least one of whole blood and a blood component. Support for the amendment may be found throughout the specification as originally filed, and therefore the newly presented claims do not constitute new subject matter. The cancellation of claimed subject matter does not constitute an admission by Applicants that the subject matter no longer claimed is not patentable. Applicants reserve the right to pursue all non-elected and cancelled subject matter in a continuing application or applications. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

An early and favorable examination of claims 41-54 on the merits is respectfully requested at this time.

The Examiner is kindly requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record for any reason that would advance the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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